

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 03536 190722Z

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 EPG-02 AID-05
SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02
OMB-01 /099 W

-----110608 190807Z /15

R 181538Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8108

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 3536

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD SA GATT

SUBJ: SOUTH AFRICAN IMPORT SURCHARGE

REF: GENEVA 5843

1. DURING CALL AT SA COMMERCE DEPT JULY 15 ON SEVERAL MATTERS, ECON COUNSELLOR RAISED IMPORT SURCHARGE WITH KOK, HEAD OF GATT DIVISION. KOK, WHO PREFERS TERM "REVENUE DUTY" TO "SURCHARGE", SAID SAG FELT IT HAD ACTED WITH CONSIDERABLE CAUTION TO INSURE 15 PERCENT ADDED DUTY DID NOT AFFECT ANY OF GATT BINDINGS AND THEREFORE IT DOES NOT CONSIDER IT HAS AN OBLIGATION TO REPORT.

2. ECON COUNSELLOR MENTIONED SPANISH PRECEDENT AND FACT THAT WE ARE INTERESTED IN PRINCIPLE OF SUCH MEASURES BEING REPORTED. KOK SAID IF US INSISTED, SA MIGHT AGREE TO REPORT BUT WOULD ADD QUALIFYING ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IT FELT ITS ACTION FELL OUTSIDE OF GATT. HE ADDED THAT SAG WOULD GREATLY PREFER DEALING BILATERALLY WITH US IF WE HAD QUESTIONS ABOUT SURCHARGE.

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3. KOK ALSO ALLUDED TO DISPOSITION OF SAG TO KEEP LOWEST POSSIBLE PROFILE IN INTERNATIONAL FORA TO AVOID GIVING HOSTILE COUNTRIES OPENINGS TO MOUNT POLITICAL ATTACKS.

4. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE REASONING PARA 3 IS PRIMARY

FACTOR IN SOUTH AFRICAN RELUCTANCE TO REPORT. WHILE WE
BELIEVE SOUTH AFRICANS WOULD, IN A SHOW OF COOPERATION,
REPORT THE SURCHARGE IF PRESSED BY US, WE QUESTION
WHETHER ISSUE IS SUBSTANTIAL ENOUGH THAT WE SHOULD PLACE
OURSELVES IN POSITION OF MAKING STRONGER APPEAL FOR THIS
CONCESSION.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CUSTOMS DUTIES, IMPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PRETOR03536
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770268-0015
Format: TEL
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770747/aaaaboik.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1c891d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1829214
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTH AFRICAN IMPORT SURCHARGE
TAGS: ETRD, SF, US, GATT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1c891d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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